

She has provided her subject matter expertise to my office countless times, and she has been an unrelenting and passionate advocate for the communities, the people, and the families whom she serves.

It is important to note that Dr. Stanford started the consortium, BDCC, with her own funds, her own money, which is a true testament to her commitment to delivering quality care to Black Americans. Dr. Stanford stepped up at an extremely volatile and uncertain time for the people of our State. This speaks volumes about her leadership and her dedication to addressing the enormous disparity in healthcare, both healthcare access and healthcare outcomes, for African Americans.

Last month, I was honored to, again, participate in the annual celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. King at Girard College, where BDCC set up a testing site, which they have done in every neighborhood throughout the city of Philadelphia. At that event, someone shared a powerful yet sobering quotation of Dr. King. Here is that quotation:

In March of 1966, at a press conference ahead of his address to the Medical Community for Human Rights in Chicago, [Dr. King] said that—

And I am quoting Dr. King here—

“of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhumane because it often results in physical death.”

So said Dr. King about the terrible inequity in healthcare.

Visionary leaders and health experts like Dr. Stanford are on the frontlines every single day, working to fix a broken system—a system, frankly, that has been unfair to so many communities of color. However, Dr. Stanford is committed—committed—to making change happen in our healthcare system so it can better serve the African-American community.

She and her team have made national headlines and garnered the well-deserved attention and support of many across the Nation as a result of the work of this consortium. So I thank Dr. Stanford for being an advocate, for being an anchor for the community, and, of course, a trusted leader.

As I conclude, I think it goes without saying that this year has been a long, difficult, and dark year. I have to say, though, in the midst of all of that darkness and all of the pain—we just left the front of the Capitol in remembrance of the 500,000 Americans who have died from COVID-19—despite all that pain, all that loss, all that darkness, this month of February, which just happens to be Black History Month, gives me some hope. In so many ways, I think our hope can be renewed.

While the pandemic still rages, especially in those communities of color I spoke of, we also see that with continued education and leadership and courage, such as someone like Dr. Stanford provides, and, of course, with vaccines

available, COVID-19 will begin to recede, and we will once again be able to hug our friends and family members and to move on from this pandemic. So we commend and salute people like Dr. Stanford who are helping us through this difficult time, providing some light in that darkness.

Leaders like Justin Parker Fields have stood up to confront injustice and to proclaim to law enforcement and elected officials that the lives of Black men and women matter and are deserving of the same protection as any other life.

As we saw people go through the polls this fall voting, and then others voting in January in Georgia, all of these Americans refusing to be intimidated by misinformation and threats, I was more hopeful. Young leaders in communities of color have insisted on telling their own stories and writing them into the book of history that for too long has been kept hidden from them, just as Glynis Johns is doing in our hometown of Scranton.

Each of our honorees, and so many like them, have indeed bent the arc of the moral universe toward justice, and for those brave acts, for those courageous acts, we honor them today in Black History Month. May God bless their work.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IMPEACHMENT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, “Remember this day forever.” That is what Donald Trump said on January 6, in a tweet to his supporters after they had attacked the U.S. Capitol.

I certainly will never forget what happened that day. I will remember the Vice President being removed from the Chair and whisked off the floor of the Senate by the Secret Service. I will remember the law enforcement officers, holding automatic weapons, standing guard in the well of the Senate while the mob spread through the Capitol building.

The entire country and the world will remember the now infamous images of a murderous mob rushing the barricades, attacking police officers, breaking into this building, and rampaging through these hallowed halls.

We will remember the incredible acts of heroism by Officer Eugene Goodman and others, to protect and defend those who work in this building. And we will remember the lives lost, including Officer Brian Sicknick, and the 140 police

officers who were injured in this attack.

On February 3, Officer Sicknick’s ashes rested in honor in the Rotunda of this Capitol. He died defending this building and this democracy. I have thought about Officer Sicknick and his family often in the past few weeks.

During the week of February 8, Senators served as jurors in the second impeachment trial of Donald Trump. Former President Trump was impeached on January 13 by the House of Representatives in a bipartisan vote, 10 Republicans joining with Democrats to impeach.

The Senate had a constitutional obligation to conduct a trial on this Article of Impeachment. We also had an obligation to make clear for the record and for history what happened on January 6 and the days leading up to it.

What did the record show over the course of this trial?

First, it showed Donald Trump’s big lie: his claim that the only way he could lose an election was if it were stolen. When he lost the 2020 election in a landslide to Joe Biden, Donald Trump refused to accept the will of the American people. He tried to challenge the election in the courts, losing over 60 times. He tried to bully State officials into overturning their States’ election results.

And when that failed, he invited his followers to come to Washington, DC, on January 6, the day when Congress would assemble to certify the States’ electoral votes. He invited them to come to DC to interrupt that process and, in his words, “stop the steal.”

Donald Trump knew what his extremist followers were capable of. Over the summer, when armed extremists stormed and occupied State capitols, demanding an end to COVID-19 safety restrictions, he had cheered them on.

On January 6, he whipped his followers into a frenzy. “We have to fight like hell,” he told the crowd he had invited and assembled. “If you don’t fight like hell, you’re not going to have a country anymore.” Then he told his followers—angry, inflamed, many of them armed—to go to the Capitol where the Vice President and Congress were certifying the votes.

Donald Trump was not shocked what happened that day. He was excited. We now know that he ignored pleas from Members of Congress in the Capitol—members of his own party—who begged him to calm the mob and stop the attack.

To this day, Donald Trump has not showed one ounce of remorse or regret. He later described his speech on January 6 as “totally appropriate.”

For 5 days, the House Managers meticulously laid out an overwhelming case for conviction. The managers had the facts, the law, the Constitution, and a mountain of evidence on their side. The former President’s defense team did not have much to work with. They only spent a couple of hours making their case and spent much of that